GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:543
ANSWERED ON:28.02.2008
ESCALATORS AT THE RAILWAY STATIONS
Rawat Shri Bachi Singh

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether in most of the Railway Stations, the physically disabled and old passengers find it difficult to reach for want of escalators and lifts; and

(b) if so, the steps being taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS(SHRI R. VELU)

(a) & (b): The lift and escalators are at present provided at few stations such as Chepauk, Tirumailai, Light House, Tiruvallikeni and Egmore in Southern Railway, Vijayawada in South Central Railway, Pune in Central Railway, New Dlehi in Northern Railway and 35 number escalators in Metro stations. However, in the first instance, all `A-1` and `A` category stations have been provided with

(i) standard ramps for barrier free entry,

(ii) earmarking parking lots for vehicles used by disabled persons,

(iii) non-slippery walkway,

(iv) signages,

(v) toilets suitable for needs of handicapped persons,

(vi) water taps suitable for needs of handicapped persons,

(vii) `May I Help You` Booths and

(viii) Wheel Chairs.

At identified `B` category stations, the above facilities have been planned to be provided in phased manner.In long term action plan, Railways have planned to provide facility of inter platform transfer and engraving on edges of Platforms. Inter platform transfer facility can be provided by way of connecting all the platforms at the stations through foot-over-bridge/ subway with ramps or by providing lift at each platform to connect foot-over-bridge/subway. Railways have been authorised to use path ways provided at the end of the platforms (meant for parcel traffic) for the disabled persons with escorts, to facilitate inter platform transfer.